



As required by the Washington State Administrative Act, RCW 34.05.

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN FOR THE ADOPTION OF
Chapter 173-153 WAC, *Water Conservancy Boards*

July 2006

Publication No. 06-11-028

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CHAPTER 173-153 WAC, Water Conservancy Boards

Prepared by:
Fred Rajala
Washington State Department of Ecology
Water Resources Program

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Implementation Plan for Chapter 173 153 WAC, Water Conservancy Boards

- 1. Please describe how the Agency intends to implement and enforce the rule. Please include a description of the resources the Agency intends to use.**

Trainings for current water conservancy board commissioners are planned during the winter of 2007. At that time we will review with the commissioners the changes to the rule. We also have periodic trainings for new commissioners to boards and discuss in detail the water conservancy board statute and rule.

In addition, agency staff is responsible to provide technical assistance to boards upon request and also review all boards' records of decisions. Their review is based on requirements of boards through the statute and the rule.

- 2. Please describe how the Agency intends to inform and educate affected persons about the rule.**

Trainings for current water conservancy board commissioners are planned for the winter of 2007. At that time we will review with the commissioners the changes to the rule. We also have periodic trainings for new commissioners to boards and discuss in detail the water conservancy board statute and rule. A newsletter is written by the water conservancy board coordinator on a periodic basis and circulated to board commissioners, county legislative contacts in counties having boards, and other interested parties. The rule amendments will be made a subject within the newsletter.

- 3. Please describe how the Agency intends to promote and assist voluntary compliance for this rule.**

Trainings for current water conservancy board commissioners are planned for the winter of 2007. At that time we will review with the commissioners the changes to the rule. We also have periodic trainings for new commissioners to boards and discuss in detail the water conservancy board statute and rule. A newsletter is written by the water conservancy board coordinator on a periodic basis and circulated to board commissioners, county legislative contacts in counties having boards, and other interested parties. The rule amendments will be made a subject within the newsletter.

Technical assistance is also provided to boards as they process water right changes applications. Upon request by board commissioners, Ecology staff is available to answer questions and provide guidance to boards.

Frequent communications from the water conservancy board coordinator to boards are emailed out as reminders and updates.

- 4. Please describe how the Agency intends to evaluate whether the rule achieves the purpose for which it was adopted, including to the maximum extent practicable, the use of interim milestones to assess progress and the use of objectively measurable outcome.**

Ecology reviews water conservancy board decisions and provides technical assistance. Ecology has routine contact and communication with board commissioners, water right change applicants, and interest groups who keep the program apprised of the effectiveness of this program. Annual reports to the legislature are required of boards as well as the review of each record of decision made by boards. Ecology also holds trainings for boards which provides opportunities for open discussions on board progress.

5. Please describe how the Agency intends to train and inform Ecology staff regarding new rule or rule amendment.

Ecology plans to hold training for agency staff to review the amended rule during the winter of 2007. The water conservancy board coordinator provides on-going advice and assistance to staff.

6. Please identify supporting documents that may need to be revised because of the rule amendment. Or Identify new supporting documents that need to be developed because of a new rule.

Training materials provided to board commissioners will need to be revised. These include flow charts, sample form and letter templates, training scenarios, and operational guidance documents. In addition, the staff guidance document will be amended to be consistent with rule changes. Additional sample forms and letter templates may be developed to assist boards and staff as they implement the rule.